

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new section before the section Detailed Description of the Invention at page 3, line 9:

Brief Description of the Drawings

FIG. 1 is a flowchart illustrating a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention relates to methods for collecting and storing information relating to a tradeshow or similar event in a searchable electronic database. In the preferred embodiment of the present invention, and referring to FIG. 1, desired information regarding a tradeshow, such as a vendor's products, web site address, catalogue information, or its location at the show, is collected prior to the tradeshow, preferably by uploading to a proprietary web page (block 10). Information can also be collected during the show. The exhibitor or vendors may submit their information for a flat fee or on a unit cost per kilobyte bases. This cost may also be bundled with any other tradeshow-related fees. The collected information is then electronically compiled into a database (block 20), preferably on CD-ROM or uploaded on a web page, in a format compatible with at least one searchable reader software. The reader software can be any software program that is capable of performing a word search on the database, for example a spreadsheet program such as ~~Microsoft Excel~~ MICROSOFT EXCEL, a document publishing program such as ~~Adobe Acrobat Reader~~ ADOBE ACROBAT READER, a word-processing program such as ~~Microsoft Word~~ MICROSOFT WORD, or a PDA program. Preferably, the reader software has the capability to perform Boolean searches. That is, the database entries are preferably created with predetermined search fields or key words such as "vendor name" or "vendor products" so that a user may use the reader software to search the entries by fields in addition to text search. The

compiled database is distributed to attendees of a tradeshow or conference (block 30) in various forms and formats, as discussed in further detail below.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 29 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with the preferred embodiment of the present invention, and still referring to FIG. 1, the database is compiled on CD-ROM, and copies of the completed database CDs are distributed to tradeshow attendees at the beginning of and throughout the tradeshow (block 32). Copies of the database may also be distributed at the end of or after the tradeshow. The attendees may then use their own portable computers to access the data. In addition, dedicated computer systems may be provided at the tradeshow for users to perform a search on the database and obtain a copy of the search results. Preferably, the database is compiled as a text file or in a format that is compatible with a common word processing computer program, such as ~~Microsoft Word or Excel~~ MICROSOFT WORD or EXCEL. Alternatively, the database CD may contain an executable reader program integrated or linked to the database, which program may be run directly from the CD or downloaded onto a hard drive, and the execution of the reader program automatically opens the default database file or vice versa. Such an integrated or linked reader program may be a simple macro program designed to provide a well-defined searchable engine within a common end user software such as ~~Microsoft Word or Excel~~ MICROSOFT WORD or EXCEL. Of course, the database CD and the searchable reader program may be distributed separately.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

In another embodiment, at least one computer system comprising a computer, a monitor and a printer is provided in at least one kiosk or booth at the tradeshow (block 34). The completed database and searchable reader software are preferably electronically uploaded on the hard drive of the computer. A user may perform a search for any desired information on the computer provided, and may obtain a printout of the information using the printer provided. Preferably, the computer system is password secured, and a user may purchase a password at the tradeshow.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with yet another embodiment, the compiled database is uploaded on a web page, which is preferably password protected (block 36). A user may purchase or obtain a password online or at the corresponding tradeshow or similar event. In one implementation, a dedicated computer system similar to the ones described above or a wireless network to access the web page, perform a search for any desired information online, and obtain a hard copy of the search results at the tradeshow. In addition, users interested in the information, but are unable to attend the tradeshow, may access the web page from a personal computer at home.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

In yet another preferred embodiment, the database is compiled in a format compatible with a PDA (block 38). The database may be compiled on a PDA compatible platform and stored on a PDA downloadable station. The database may be downloaded at the tradeshow to a user's individual PDA or accessed via a wireless network at the

convention center. Alternatively, the database may be compiled on a PDA card, which can be directly plugged into a PDA for access. As a third alternative, the database may be compiled and stored on a web page. Again, access to the database may be purchased for a flat fee or on a per kilobyte basis.